

Docket No.: 50049-041 PAT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Customer Number: 20277

Hiroyuki TAKAHASHI, et al.

Confirmation Number: 7364

Serial No.: 10/717,910

Group Art Unit: 1764

Filed: November 21, 2003

Examiner: Unknown

For:

REAGENT VESSEL CAP AND METHOD FOR SHIELDING REAGENT FROM THE AIR

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop IDS Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the documents be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the U.S. filing date OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required.

The relevance of the references listed on attached Form 1449 is discussed in the present specification.

10/717,910

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: March 5, 2004

| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION (PTO-1449) | | | | | | | | SERIAL NO. 10/717,910 | | | |
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| | | | | | | APPLICANT Hiroyuki TAKAHASHI, et al. | | | | | |
| | | | | | | FILING DATE GROUP November 21, 2003 1764 | | | | | |
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^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.